

VIII.—A new Bank-Vole from Esthonia.

By MARTIN A. C. HINTON.

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THE small mammals of Esthonia are no doubt similar, in a general way, to those inhabiting one or other of the neighbouring countries bordering upon the Baltic. But hitherto we have had little or no material from this portion of the Baltic coast, and therefore have lacked the means of determining precisely what forms invade, or, it may be, are peculiar to, Esthonian territory. This gap in our knowledge will, however, in all probability, be filled in the near future; for Mr. E. Reinwaldt, of the University of Dorpat, has now begun the systematic collection and study of the mammals of his native land, and results of considerable interest may be expected to flow from his work in due course.

Among some specimens presented to the British Museum by Mr. Reinwaldt are three examples of the local form of the widely distributed *Evotomys glareolus*. Judging from these specimens the Esthonian bank-vole is immediately distinguishable from all other western European subspecies of *E. glareolus* by its exceptionally dark coloration. Placed among the skins of other forms, such as *E. g. suecicus* and *E. g. glareolus*, and viewed casually, the backs of these Esthonian specimens appear to be quite dusky; but closer inspection shows that they have the characteristic rufous mantle normally developed, though darkened or subdued. In other respects these specimens agree best, and indeed closely, with *E. g. suecicus*, although the skulls have their own slight peculiarities. I am greatly indebted to Mr. Reinwaldt for so kindly permitting me to describe this well-marked geographical race.

Evotomys glareolus reinwaldti, subsp. n.

Most like *E. g. suecicus* in general character, but colour much darker.

Upper parts clothed with a fine mixture of dark reddish-brown and dusky hair-tips, the general effect produced, where brightest (as between ears and on nape), being no brighter than the "chestnut" of Ridgway; darkest on rump, where the elimination of rufous hair-tips leaves the colour dark slaty-grey. Rufous tinge traceable far back towards rump

and far down flanks. Underparts silvery grey, much darkened by the slaty bases of the hairs. Ears dusky. Tail dusky above; its lower surface, together with the hands and feet, dirty white.

Skull very similar to that of *E. g. suecicus* in size and general appearance; zygomatic arches slightly less expanded; bullæ slightly smaller and less inflated. Teeth normal; m^3 without a third re-entrant fold on inner side in any of the three specimens examined; in *E. g. suecicus*, Miller ('Catalogue,' p. 31) found this fold to be present in about one-third of the individuals.

Type. Adult female. B.M. No. 20. 11. 6. 4. Original No. 306. Collected by Mr. E. Reinwaldt, 11th August, 1920, at Hapsal, Esthonia. "In Obst- und Gemüsegarten."
Hab. Esthonia.

Measurements of the type, taken in the flesh by the collector (and of two other specimens ♂ and ♀ in parentheses):—Head and body 98 (91, 100) mm.; tail (without hairs), 49 (44·5, 46); hind foot (without claws), 17 (18, 17·5); ear 14 (13, 14).

Skull-measurements of type (and of ♂ and ♀ in parentheses):—Condyl-basal length 23 (23·2, 23·2) mm.; zygomatic breadth 12·6 (12·5, 12·6); interorbital constriction 3·7 (3·9, 3·7); occiput, breadth × depth 10·6 × 5·9 (10·6 × 6, 10·6 × 6·1); nasals 6·3 × 2·6 (6·2 × 2·6, 6·6 × 2·7); dental length 12·9 (13, 13·2); cheek-teeth (alveolar length) 5·1 (5·3, 5·2).

IX.—*The Klipspringers of Rhodesia, Angola, and Northern Nigeria.* By MARTIN A. C. HINTON.

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OWING largely to its peculiar station and habits, the Klipspringer, among African antelopes, shows quite a special tendency to develop geographical and, in part, perhaps, merely colonial races. The range of *Oreotragus* extends over the whole of Africa south of the Sahara, from Northern Nigeria and Somaliland to the Cape. Within this wide area, however, its distribution is markedly discontinuous, the animal being restricted to the mountainous districts. Thus it is absent from the great Congo forest region; while, in the more open country of East Africa, the lowlands intervening between one "Inselberg" and another form, in all cases where their breadth exceeds a few miles, decided barriers to inter-colonial communication.